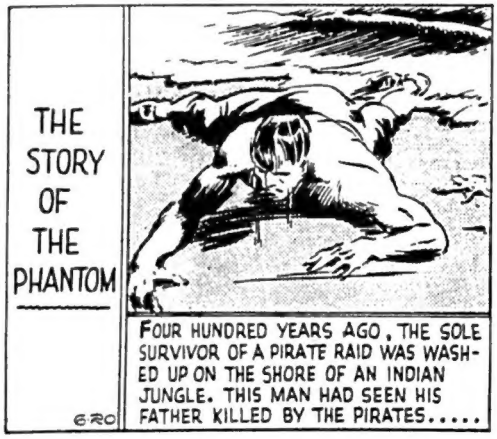
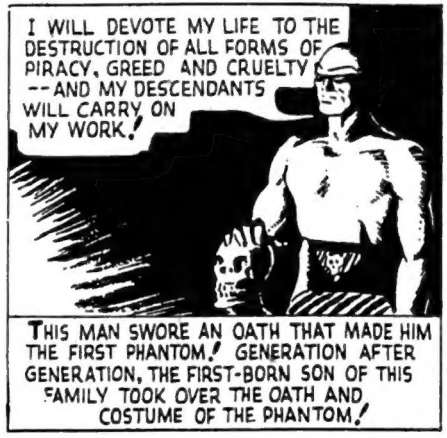

THE STORY OF THE PHANTOM
FOUR HUNDRED YEARS AGO, THE SOLE SURVIVOR OF A PIRATE RAID WAS WASHED UP ON THE SHORE OF AN INDIAN JUNGLE. THIS MAN HAD SEEN HIS FATHER KILLED BY THE PIRATES.....


I WILL DEVOTE MY LIFE TO THE DESTRUCTION OF ALL FORMS OF PIRACY, GREED AND CRUELTY --AND MY DESCENDANTS WILL CARRY ON MY WORK!
THIS MAN SWORE AN OATH THAT MADE HIM THE FIRST PHANTOM! GENERATION AFTER GENERATION, THE FIRST-BORN SON OF THIS FAMILY TOOK OVER THE OATH AND COSTUME OF THE PHANTOM!

THE GHOST WHO WALKS.
CAN NEVER DIE.
THROUGHOUT THE ORIENT, THE NATIVES SPEAK IN LOW VOICES WHEN THEY TALK OF....

THE PHANTOM, FOR THEY BELIEVE HIM TO BE IMMORTAL!

Diana— I'm coming to you as fast as I can. My boat reaches Marseilles a week from today. Meet me if you can.
Love
IN PARIS, DIANA RECEIVES A LETTER FROM THE PHANTOM!

MOTHER -- HE'S COMING -- HE'S COMING!
WHO, DEAR?

I DON'T KNOW HIS NAME. I'VE NEVER HAD A REALLY GOOD LOOK AT HIS FACE. I KNOW PRACTICALLY NOTHING ABOUT HIM...
THEN WHY ARE YOU SO EXCITED?

BECAUSE I'M GOING TO MARRY HIM.
tomorrow - MOTHER OBJECTS

SO YOU INTEND TO MARRY A MAN YOU DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT!
I FORGOT TO MENTION ONE IMPORTANT THING, MOTHER. I KNOW THAT HE LOVES ME.

DIANA, YOU MUST BE OUT OF YOUR MIND! YOU ADMIT THAT YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW HIS NAME---
MOTHER, WHY DID YOU MARRY DAD?

THAT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH IT! THIS MYSTERIOUS PERSON IS OBVIOUSLY A FORTUNE-HUNTER AND I FORBID YOU TO---
MOTHER, THERE'S NO OTHER MAN IN THE WORLD LIKE HIM. I LOVE HIM---AND THERE'S NOTHING EITHER OF US CAN DO ABOUT THAT.

MEANWHILE, ON THE SOUTHERN MEDITERRANEAN, A SHIP SPEEDS WESTWARD, CARRYING A MYSTERIOUS PASSENGER IN CABIN 14!
tomorrow - THE PHANTOM.

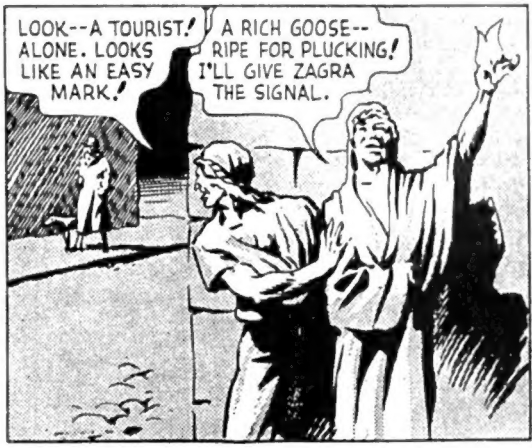
THINK OF IT, DEVIL. IN A FEW DAYS, WE'LL SEE DIANA! AND WE'RE GOING TO BE MARRIED! WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THAT?

GLAD YOU APPROVE. WE'VE GOT A FEW HOURS' STOP HERE AT ALGIERS. WE MIGHT AS WELL GO OUT AND STRETCH OUR LEGS A BIT.

BETTER NOT GO INTO THE NATIVE QUARTER ALONE AT THIS HOUR, SIR, AND DON'T FORGET, WE SAIL AT ELEVEN, PROMPT.
THANK YOU, STEWARD. I WOULDN'T MISS THIS BOAT FOR ANYTHING. JUST GOING FOR A STROLL.

THAT'S A QUEER BIRD. STAYS ALONE IN HIS CABIN ALL THE TIME, WITH THAT WOLF-HOUND OF HIS. NEVER YET SEEN HIS FACE.
HE'S PROBABLY ONE OF THEM MOVIE STARS --TRAVELING INCOGNITO. THEY ATTRACT MORE ATTENTION THAT WAY.

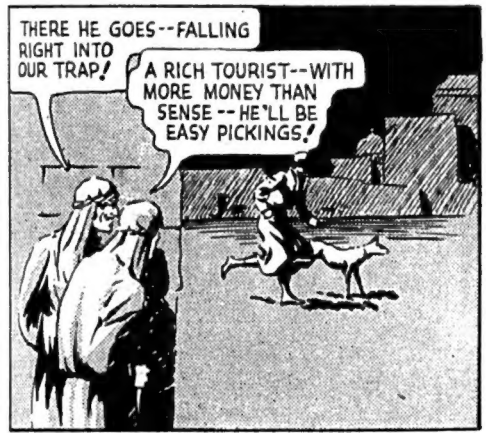
ALGIERS' NATIVE QUARTER NEVER CHANGES, DEVIL. JUST THINK, IN THREE DAYS, WE'LL BE SEEING DIANA AGAIN!


LOOK--A TOURIST! ALONE. LOOKS LIKE AN EASY MARK!
A RICH GOOSE-- RIPE FOR PLUCKING! I'LL GIVE ZAGRA THE SIGNAL.

ABOUT TIME TO START BACK FOR THE BOAT. HEY--WHAT'S THAT?

HELP! HELP!

HELP!


THERE HE GOES--FALLING RIGHT INTO OUR TRAP!
A RICH TOURIST--WITH MORE MONEY THAN SENSE--HE'LL BE EASY PICKINGS!

NO, I HAVEN'T MADE A MISTAKE. I HEARD A GIRL SCREAMING FROM UP HERE.
FINE HOUR TO BREAK IN ON A PEACEFUL MAN WITH SUCH A SILLY STORY! WELL--IF YOU WON'T GO AWAY-- COME IN AND SEE FOR YOURSELF!

Continued—

THINKING THEY'VE SPOTTED A RICH TOURIST, THUGS LURE THE PHANTOM INTO A PRIVATE DIVE IN ALGIERS.

I HEARD A GIRL SCREAMING IN HERE---CALLING FOR HELP. NO MORE ALIBIS--WHERE IS SHE?

WHAT RIGHT HAVE YOU TO BREAK INTO MY HOUSE? THERE'S NO GIRL HERE!

6-27

I'VE GOT A BOAT TO CATCH! DON'T LIE TO ME! WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?

YOU DON'T HAVE TO--SHAKE ME TO PIECES! LOOK-F-FOR YOUR SELF. NEXT ROOM.

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NO--WAIT UNTIL HE SEES HER.

NOW!

WE'RE READY TO PULL IN THE GANGPLANK, CAPTAIN, BUT THAT MYSTERY MAN IN CABIN 14 IS STILL ASHORE.

WE'LL WAIT FIVE MINUTES, NO MORE. I CAN'T DELAY SAILING EVERYTIME A TOURIST GOES ON A BENDER IN THESE COAST TOWNS!

SEE---THERE'S THE ONLY GIRL HERE---MY DAUGHTER. IS SHE HARMED?

THAT'S THE ONE, ALL RIGHT.

WEREN'T YOU YELLING YOUR LUNGS OUT AT THIS WINDOW A MOMENT AGO?

ME YELLING? YOU MUST BE MISTAKEN, M'SIEUR.

NO---I'M NOT MISTAKEN. YOU'RE THE GIRL AND THIS IS THE WINDOW. DO YOU YELL BLOODY MURDER JUST FOR THE FUN OF IT?

NOT FOR FUN, M'SIEUR. FOR PROFIT. PUT UP YOUR HANDS!

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6-28

LOOKS LIKE I FELL FOR THE OLD "ARMY GAME."

THAT PASSENGER IN CABIN 14 IS STILL ASHORE, SIR.

SOUND THE WARNING WHISTLE. WE CAN'T HOLD UP SAILING MUCH LONGER.

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THE SHIP'S WHISTLE! SORRY I CAN'T STAY TO FINISH OUR ARGUMENT--BUT I'VE GOT A BOAT TO CATCH!

AFTER HIM! DON'T LET HIM GET AWAY!

6-29

YOU FELLOWS SEEM DETERMINED TO MAKE ME MISS MY BOAT!

GET HIM, DEVIL!
6-30

KEEP HIM BUSY, DEVIL -- FOR JUST A MINUTE--

T-THE -- PHANTOM--!
YOU THOUGHT I WAS TOMMY-TOURIST, OUT FOR A LARK. EASY PICKINGS, EH?

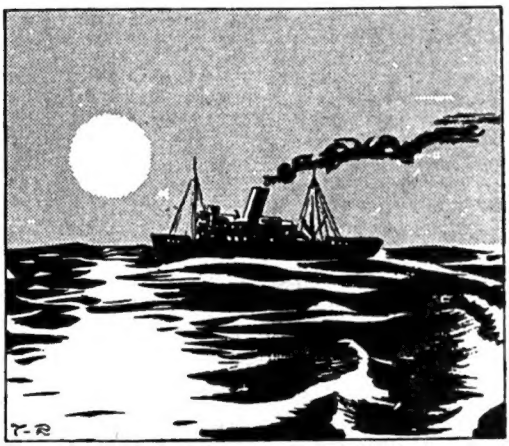
LET'S-GET OUT OF HERE!

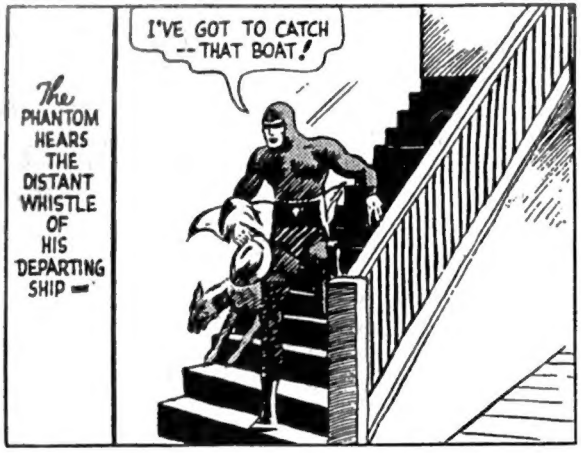
YOU ASKED FOR IT!

AND YOU, YOUNG LADY, ARE A MEMBER OF THIS GANG. YOU GOT ME INTO THIS HOUSE BY SCREAMING FOR HELP
N-NO, I DIDN'T DO ANYTHING. WHAT--ARE YOU GOING TO DO?

A GOOD SPANKING IS THE ONLY THING I CAN THINK OF! YOUR MOTHER SHOULD HAVE DONE IT LONG AGO!
OW-- OW-

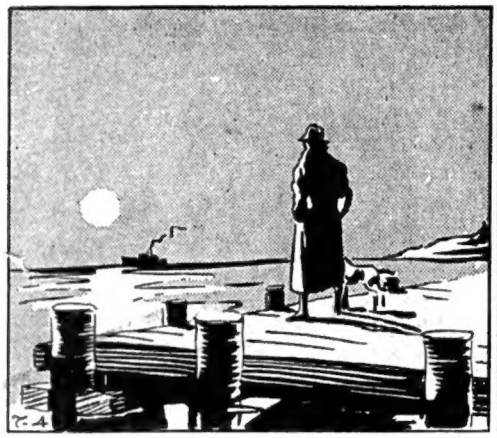
MY BOAT! I ALMOST FORGOT--

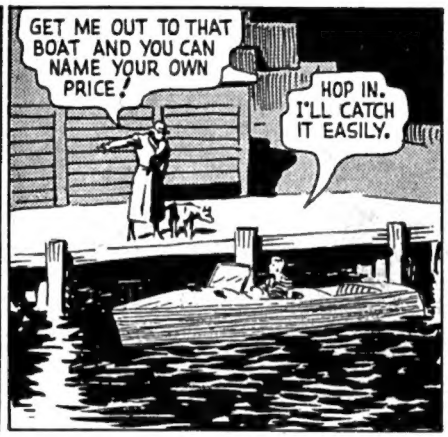


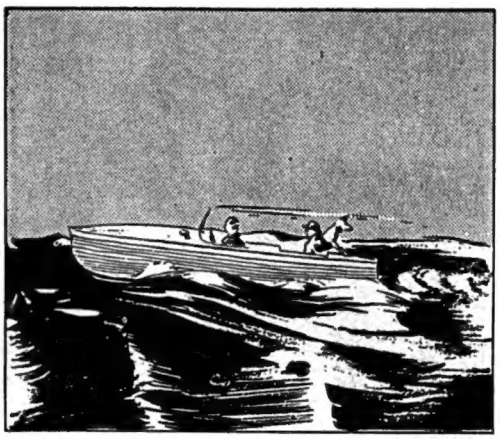

The PHANTOM HEARS THE DISTANT WHISTLE OF HIS DEPARTING SHIP —
I'VE GOT TO CATCH --THAT BOAT!

DIANA --EXPECTS ME-- ON THAT BOAT!

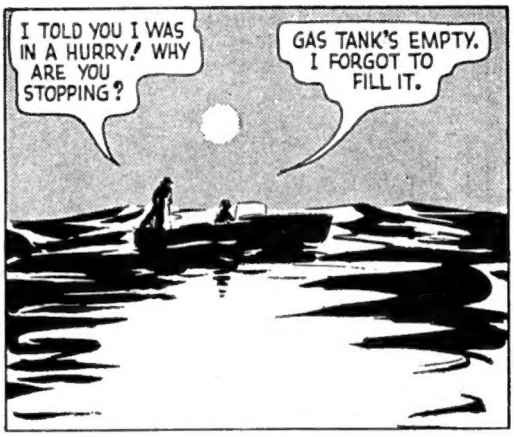
I'LL NEVER FORGIVE MYSELF IF I MISS IT!

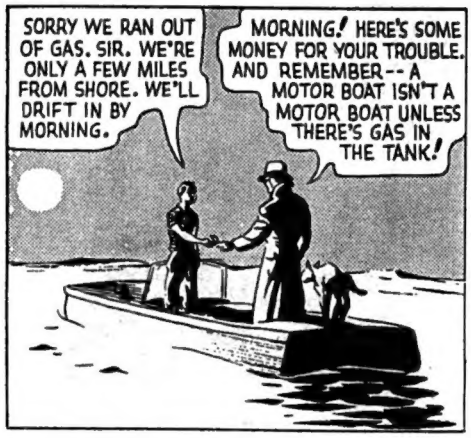


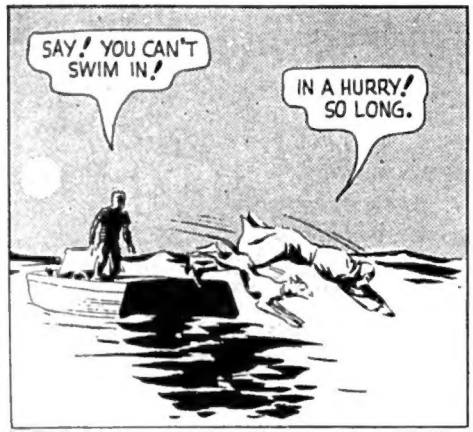

GET ME OUT TO THAT BOAT AND YOU CAN NAME YOUR OWN PRICE!
HOP IN. I'LL CATCH IT EASILY.

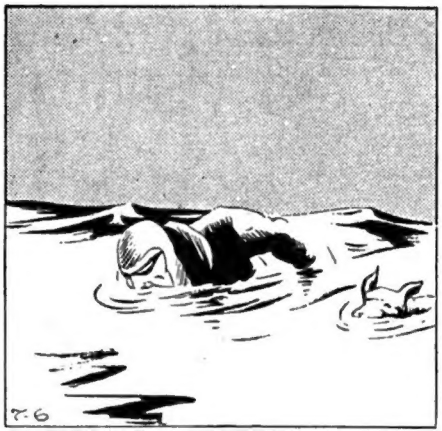


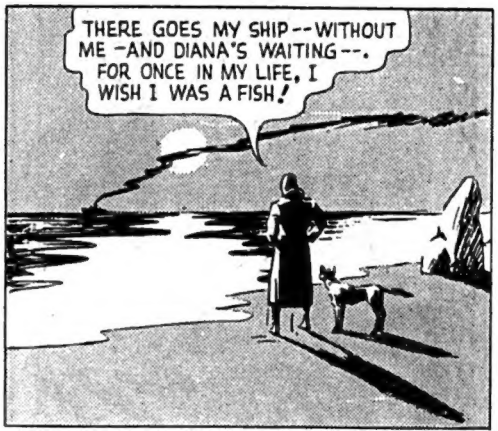
WE'LL CATCH IT, DEVIL. DIANA'S EXPECTING ME! I JUST CAN'T MISS IT!


I TOLD YOU I WAS IN A HURRY! WHY ARE YOU STOPPING?
GAS TANK'S EMPTY. I FORGOT TO FILL IT.

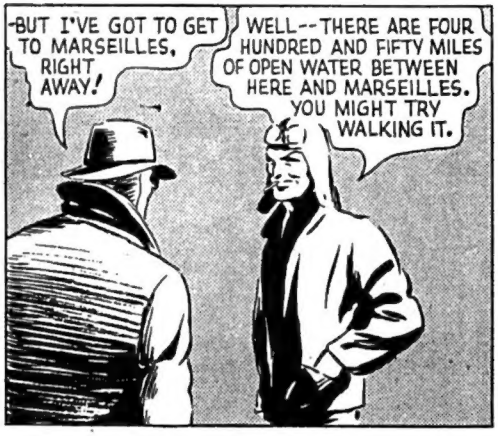

SORRY WE RAN OUT OF GAS. SIR. WE'RE ONLY A FEW MILES FROM SHORE. WE'LL DRIFT IN BY MORNING.
MORNING! HERE'S SOME MONEY FOR YOUR TROUBLE. AND REMEMBER-- A MOTOR BOAT ISN'T A MOTOR BOAT UNLESS THERE'S GAS IN THE TANK!


SAY! YOU CAN'T SWIM IN!
IN A HURRY! SO LONG.

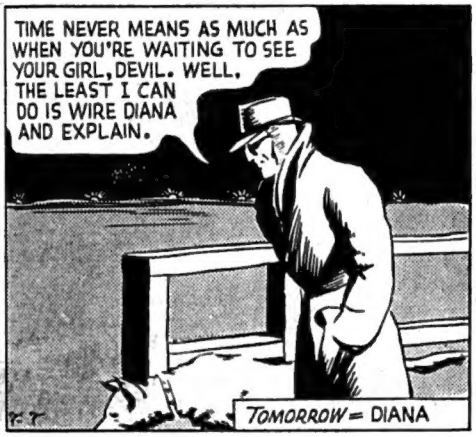



THERE GOES MY SHIP--WITHOUT ME -AND DIANA'S WAITING--. FOR ONCE IN MY LIFE, I WISH I WAS A FISH!

WHEN'S THE NEXT PLANE LEAVE ?
I'D LIKE TO KNOW THAT, MYSELF. THERE ARE STORMS AT SEA. NO FLIGHTS FOR A FEW DAYS, ANYHOW.

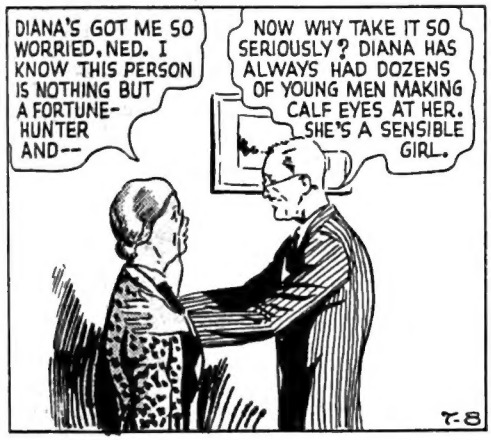

BUT I'VE GOT TO GET TO MARSEILLES, RIGHT AWAY!
WELL--THERE ARE FOUR HUNDRED AND FIFTY MILES OF OPEN WATER BETWEEN HERE AND MARSEILLES. YOU MIGHT TRY WALKING IT.

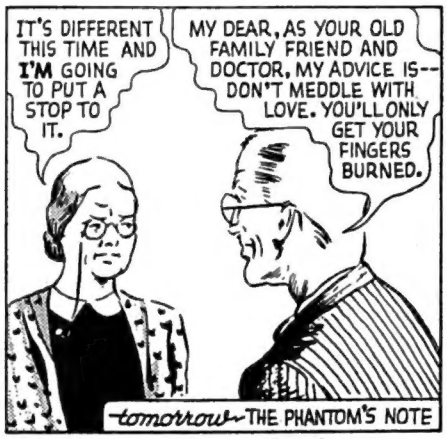
BUT IF I WERE YOU, I'D WAIT FOR THE NEXT BOAT-ABOUT FOUR DAYS FROM NOW.
FOUR DAYS! WELL-- THANKS.


TIME NEVER MEANS AS MUCH AS WHEN YOU'RE WAITING TO SEE YOUR GIRL, DEVIL. WELL, THE LEAST I CAN DO IS WIRE DIANA AND EXPLAIN.
TOMORROW = DIANA

MOTHER, HE'LL BE HERE IN TWO DAYS! I CAN HARDLY WAIT!
YOU'RE STILL DETERMINED TO MARRY THIS--THIS MAN WHOM YOU KNOW NOTHING ABOUT ?

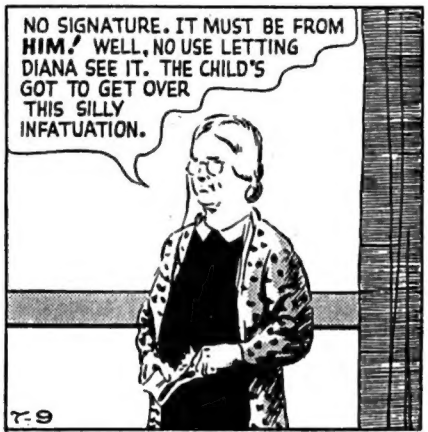
WAIT UNTIL YOU MEET HIM, MOTHER. HE'S MARVELOUS!
I CAN HARDLY WAIT.


DIANA'S GOT ME SO WORRIED, NED. I KNOW THIS PERSON IS NOTHING BUT A FORTUNE-HUNTER AND--
NOW WHY TAKE IT SO SERIOUSLY ? DIANA HAS ALWAYS HAD DOZENS OF YOUNG MEN MAKING CALF EYES AT HER. SHE'S A SENSIBLE GIRL.


IT'S DIFFERENT THIS TIME AND I'M GOING TO PUT A STOP TO IT.
MY DEAR, AS YOUR OLD FAMILY FRIEND AND DOCTOR, MY ADVICE IS-- DON'T MEDDLE WITH LOVE. YOU'LL ONLY GET YOUR FINGERS BURNED.
tomorrow--THE PHANTOM'S NOTE

CABLEGRAM FOR DIANA PALMER.
I'M HER MOTHER. I'LL SIGN FOR IT.

CABLEGRAM
DIANA PALMER, GEORGE III, PARIS.
MISSED BOAT AT ALGIERS- DELAYED FOUR DAYS- ANXIOUS TO SEE YOU.
LOVE.

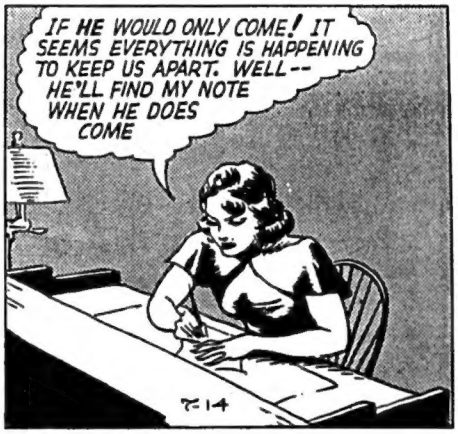

NO SIGNATURE. IT MUST BE FROM HIM! WELL, NO USE LETTING DIANA SEE IT. THE CHILD'S GOT TO GET OVER THIS SILLY INFATUATION.

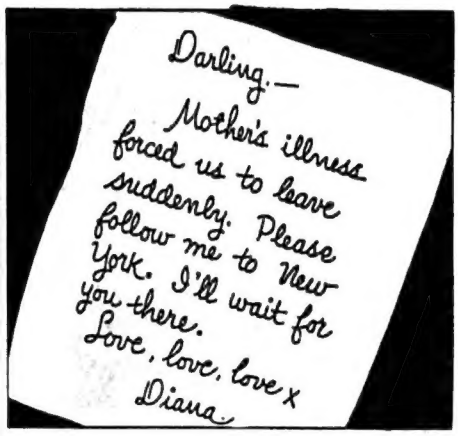
WHO WAS THAT AT THE DOOR, MOTHER ?
OH, SOME MAN SELLING INSURANCE, OR VACUUM-CLEANERS OR SOMETHING. I TOLD HIM WE DIDN'T WANT ANY--WHAT-EVER IT WAS.
Continued--

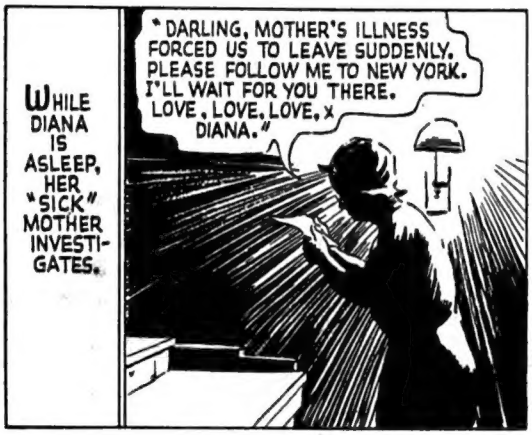
DIANA DOESN'T KNOW THE PHANTOM MISSED HIS BOAT, BECAUSE HER MOTHER TORE UP HIS CABLEGRAM.
MOTHER, YOU DON'T HAVE TO GO WITH ME TO MEET THE BOAT, IF YOU DON'T WANT TO.
YOU DON'T THINK I'M GOING TO LET YOU GO ALL THE WAY FROM PARIS TO MARSEILLES. TO MEET A MAN YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW!
IT WAS WRONG NOT TO TELL DIANA ABOUT THE MESSAGE FROM THIS LOCHINVAR OF HERS.
I'M SORRY, NED. I'M DOING WHAT I THINK IS BEST FOR HER. I WON'T LET HER THROW HERSELF AWAY ON AN UNKNOWN ADVENTURER.
NO, MAM'SELLE -- THE PASSENGERS ARE ALL ASHORE.
ARE YOU SURE THIS IS THE RIGHT BOAT, DIANA?
HE -- DIDN'T COME.
MAKING THAT LONG TRIP -- FOR NOTHING! HE WASN'T EVEN ON THE BOAT! I HOPE YOU'RE SATISFIED, DIANA!
HE MIGHT AT LEAST -- HAVE WRITTEN ME.
BUT I DON'T CARE. SOMETHING MAY HAVE HAPPENED. I'LL WAIT HERE FOR HIM, UNTIL HE COMES!
WHAT! NOW -- DIANA!
WELL, YOUR LITTLE PLAN DIDN'T WORK. YOU TORE UP HIS CABLEGRAM TO HER -- BUT SHE'S WAITING FOR HIM, ANYHOW. LOOKS LIKE THE REAL THING.
REAL THING. POSH! A SILLY INFATUATION WITH AN UNKNOWN ADVENTURER -- A FORTUNE-HUNTER! I'VE GOT A BETTER PLAN. AND YOU, AS OUR DOCTOR, ARE GOING TO HELP ME!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
I'M GOING TO BE SICK! AND DIANA AND I ARE NOT GOING TO BE HERE -- WHEN THIS PERSON ARRIVES!
Tomorrow = MAMA GOES INTO ACTION
WELL, DEVIL. WE'RE ON OUR WAY AGAIN -- TO DIANA. I WISH THIS BOAT HAD WINGS!
BUT -- DOCTOR NED -- WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH MOTHER?
SHE -- er -- HAD A FAINTING SPELL THIS MORNING, DIANA. IT'S BEST THAT YOU DON'T SEE HER JUST NOW.
I DON'T LIKE THIS. IT'S UNETHICAL -- AND IT'S UNFAIR. AND BESIDES ---
POSH! UNETHICAL! YOU'VE KNOWN DIANA SINCE SHE WAS A BABY. WE'VE GOT TO WORK TOGETHER -- SO SHE WON'T RUIN HER LIFE WITH AN IMPOSSIBLE MARRIAGE. NOW -- GO TELL HER.
LEAVE -- PARIS -- NOW?
er -- YES, DIANA. YOUR MOTHER'S CONDITION IS -- er -- UNCERTAIN. CALLS FOR FACILITIES AT HOME. BEST THAT WE LEAVE FOR THE STATES -- AT ONCE.

WON'T YOU CHANGE YOUR MIND? YOU'RE NOT SICK. YOU'RE JUST DOING THIS TO GET DIANA OUT OF PARIS.
EXACTLY. SO WE'LL BE GONE -- WHEN THAT-- THAT PHANTOM -- COMES!

I DON'T WANT TO TAKE A CHANCE WITH MOTHER'S HEALTH-- BUT AREN'T THERE DOCTORS HERE WHO COULD---
IT'S BEST NOT TO--er --GAMBLE. YOU AND YOUR MOTHER HAD BETTER TAKE THE FIRST BOAT HOME.

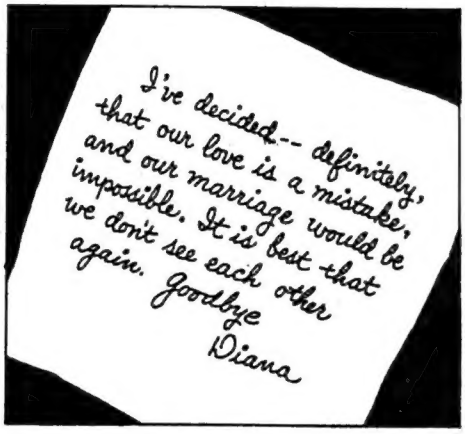

IF HE WOULD ONLY COME! IT SEEMS EVERYTHING IS HAPPENING TO KEEP US APART. WELL-- HE'LL FIND MY NOTE WHEN HE DOES COME
T-14

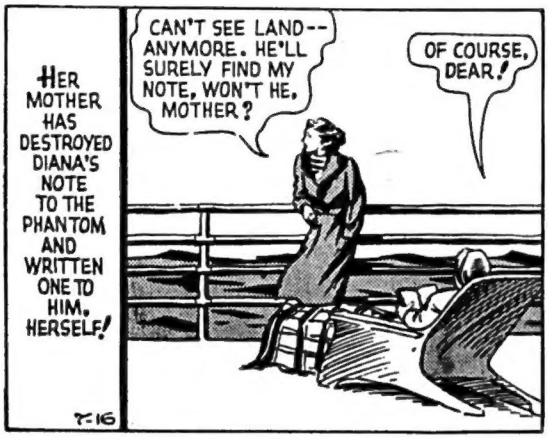

Darling.—
Mother's illness forced us to leave suddenly. Please follow me to New York. I'll wait for you there.
Love, love, love x
Diana


WHILE DIANA IS ASLEEP, HER "SICK" MOTHER INVESTIGATES.
"DARLING, MOTHER'S ILLNESS FORCED US TO LEAVE SUDDENLY. PLEASE FOLLOW ME TO NEW YORK. I'LL WAIT FOR YOU THERE. LOVE, LOVE, LOVE, x DIANA."

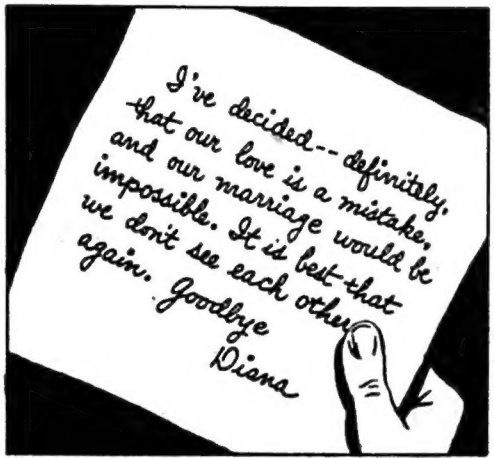
DARLING! THREE LOVES! I HAVE TO WATCH HER EVERY MINUTE. WELL, THANK GOODNESS, WE'LL BE ON THE BOAT TOMORROW!

I THINK I CAN WRITE A MUCH BETTER NOTE TO HIM!
T-15


I've decided-- definitely, that our love is a mistake, and our marriage would be impossible. It is best that we don't see each other again. Goodbye
Diana


HER MOTHER HAS DESTROYED DIANA'S NOTE TO THE PHANTOM AND WRITTEN ONE TO HIM, HERSELF!
CAN'T SEE LAND-- ANYMORE. HE'LL SURELY FIND MY NOTE, WON'T HE, MOTHER?
OF COURSE, DEAR!
T-16

SHE'S GONE? WELL, DID SHE LEAVE ME A NOTE?
YES, SIR. HERE IT IS.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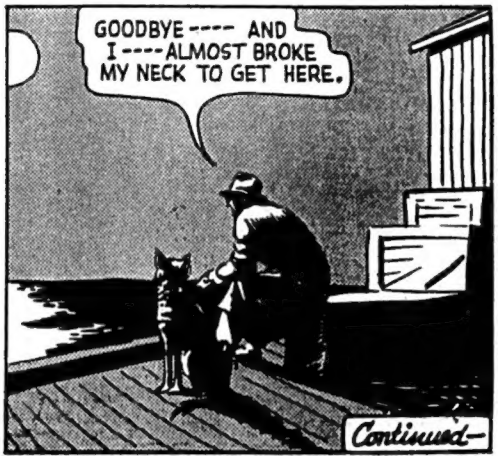
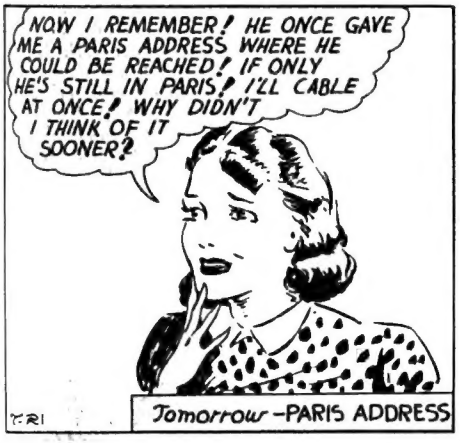

GOODBYE---- AND I----ALMOST BROKE MY NECK TO GET HERE.
Continued—

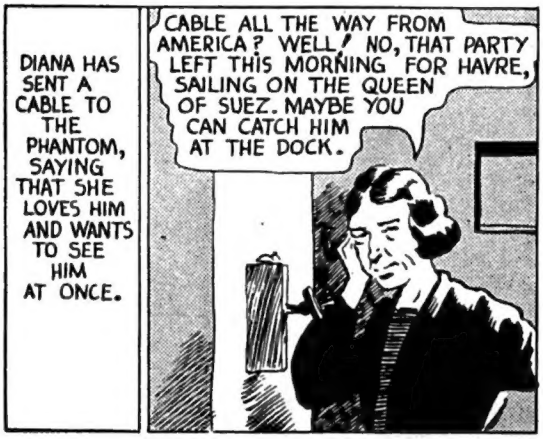
DIANA DOESN'T KNOW HER MOTHER PLAYED SICK TO GET HER AWAY FROM PARIS--AND THE PHANTOM
BUT, DEAR, I'M FEELING BETTER NOW. I DON'T WANT TO SEE ANY DOCTORS.
MOTHER, NED SAID YOUR CONDITION WAS SERIOUS. WOULD HE HAVE MADE US COME ALL THE WAY TO NEW YORK FROM PARIS, OTHERWISE?
BUT REALLY, DOCTOR, I'M QUITE ALL RIGHT NOW AND---
OFFIC
YES, YES--WE'LL SEE. HAVE A SEAT, DIANA.-WON'T BE LONG.
WHY HASN'T HE WRITTEN? I WONDER IF HE GOT MY NOTE? OH, DARLING, WHEN AM I GOING TO SEE YOU AGAIN?
7-18
IT WAS UNNECESSARY FOR YOU TO MAKE THE TRIP HERE. YOUR MOTHER IS PERFECTLY HEALTHY.
HOW MARVELOUS! BUT, MOTHER--WHY DID WE COME ALL THIS WAY?
DIANA'S MOTHER CONFESSES THAT SHE HASN'T BEEN SICK AT ALL.
7-19
THEN—IT WAS ALL A TRICK TO GET ME OUT OF PARIS BEFORE HE ARRIVED!
IT WAS FOR YOUR OWN GOOD, DIANA. I WANT YOU TO FORGET YOUR SILLY INFATUATION FOR THIS PHANTOM PERSON---
AT LEAST--HE'LL GET MY NOTE, TELLING HIM TO FOLLOW ME HERE.
NO, DEAR. I TOOK THE LIBERTY OF TEARING UP YOUR NOTE--AND WRITING ONE, MYSELF. I MADE IT CLEAR THAT YOU NEVER WANTED TO SEE HIM AGAIN.
AND I SUPPOSE I MISSED MEETING HIM ON THE BOAT BECAUSE--
I TORE UP HIS CABLEGRAM WHICH SAID THAT HE WOULD ARRIVE LATER. DEAR, HE'S AN UNKNOWN ADVENTURER, A FORTUNE-HUNTER--A--
YOU DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT HIM! YOU'VE NEVER SEEN HIM! HOW COULD YOU HAVE DONE THIS TO ME?
SOMEDAY YOU'LL THANK ME.
Tomorrow-
FISHERMAN'S LUCK
7-20
LUCKY PEOPLE! IF DIANA HAD ONLY STAYED! MY LUCK'S RUNNING THIN, DEVIL. IN THE OLD DAYS, IF I FELL INTO THE WATER I CAME UP WITH A FISH IN MY MOUTH.
NOW IF I FELL INTO THE WATER, I'D COME UP IN A FISH'S MOUTH.

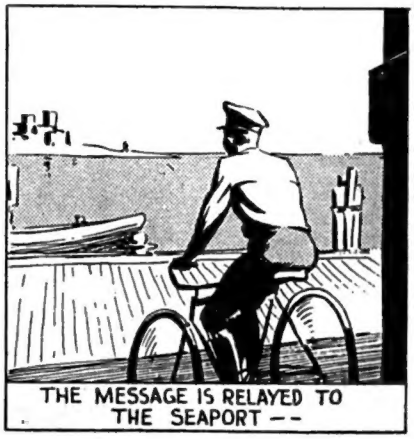
DIANA, DEAR, YOU HAVEN'T TOUCHED YOUR SUPPER AND YOU HAVEN'T BEEN OUT OF THE HOUSE.
I'M NOT HUNGRY. I DON'T WANT TO GO ANYWHERE.

NOW, DEAR, WHAT I DID, WAS FOR YOUR OWN GOOD. YOU'LL FORGET THIS PHANTOM PERSON AND--
MOTHER, YOU TORE UP HIS LETTERS AND TOOK ME AWAY FROM HIM. I KNOW YOU MEANT IT ALL FOR THE BEST --

BUT I'M OLD ENOUGH TO KNOW MY OWN MIND. I'M SO HELPLESS HERE. IF I ONLY KNEW WHERE TO REACH HIM --OR HOW!


NOW I REMEMBER! HE ONCE GAVE ME A PARIS ADDRESS WHERE HE COULD BE REACHED! IF ONLY HE'S STILL IN PARIS! I'LL CABLE AT ONCE! WHY DIDN'T I THINK OF IT SOONER?
Tomorrow -PARIS ADDRESS


DIANA HAS SENT A CABLE TO THE PHANTOM, SAYING THAT SHE LOVES HIM AND WANTS TO SEE HIM AT ONCE.
CABLE ALL THE WAY FROM AMERICA? WELL! NO, THAT PARTY LEFT THIS MORNING FOR HAVRE, SAILING ON THE QUEEN OF SUEZ. MAYBE YOU CAN CATCH HIM AT THE DOCK.

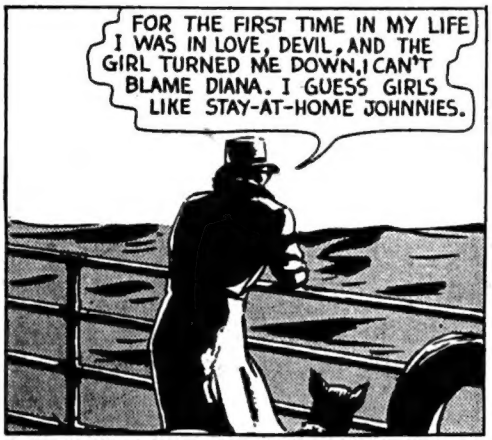

THE MESSAGE IS RELAYED TO THE SEAPORT --

QUEEN OF SUEZ? THERE SHE GOES, BOY. LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE TOO LATE TO DELIVER THAT MESSAGE.

BACK TO SEA AGAIN, DEVIL. I THOUGHT THAT THIS TIME, I'D HAVE DIANA WITH ME INSTEAD OF YOU, YOU ORNERY PUP, BUT IT LOOKS LIKE WE MEN HAVE TO STICK TOGETHER.

NO REPLY FROM HIM. I GUESS HE DIDN'T GET MY MESSAGE. THE ONLY MESSAGE HE GOT WAS THE ONE MOTHER WROTE -- SAYING I NEVER WANTED TO SEE HIM AGAIN.

NOW--IT LOOKS LIKE I WON'T. IF I ONLY COULD SEE HIM AGAIN---LONG ENOUGH TO TELL HIM THAT I LOVE HIM! I WONDER-- WHERE HE IS?


FOR THE FIRST TIME IN MY LIFE I WAS IN LOVE, DEVIL, AND THE GIRL TURNED ME DOWN, I CAN'T BLAME DIANA. I GUESS GIRLS LIKE STAY-AT-HOME JOHNNIES.

GOODBYE TO THE WEST. WE'RE GOING BACK TO THE EAST. WHAT COMES NEXT, I DON'T KNOW, BUT IT BETTER BE ACTION! I'M PRIMED FOR IT!
STARTING NEXT WEEK-- The SHARK'S NEST!